



**KNDO-TV** • 1608 S. 24th Ave. • Yakima, WA 98902  
509.225.2300 • Fax: 509.225.2363



**KNDU-TV** • 3312 W. Kennewick Ave. • Kennewick, WA 99336  
509.737.6700 • Fax: 509.737.6767

July 6, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: **KNDO-DT, Facility ID No. 12395**, and  
its satellite,  
**KNDU-DT, Facility ID No. 12427**  
MB Docket No. 03-15

Dear Ms. Dortch:

KHQ, Incorporated ("KHQ"), licensee of KNDO-DT and its satellite, KNDU-DT, serving the Yakima-Pasco-Richland-Kennewick, Washington DMA, requests a waiver of the July 1, 2006 replication/maximization interference protection deadline for KNDO-DT. KNDU-DT, as a television satellite station, is not subject to the July 1, 2006 interference protection deadline and is not required to seek a waiver of that deadline in order to retain its Digital Television ("DTV") interference protection.<sup>1</sup>

KNDO-DT is currently operating under Special Temporary Authority at a power level and height above average terrain below those authorized in its construction permit. *See* File No. BEDSTA 20060207AJW. At its current parameters, KNDO-DT provides coverage to 90.5% of the population served by the analog signal of KNDO-TV.

---

<sup>1</sup> *See, e.g.*, DA 06-1255 (Public Notice released June 14, 2006), at 5-6. KNDU-DT is operating at reduced power pursuant to Special Temporary Authority ("STA"); *see* File No. BEDSTA 20060207ACM. To the extent that it is necessary, KHQ requests an extension of such STA for KNDU-DT.

Both KNDO-TV and KNDO-DT broadcast from the same tower. KNDO-TV's antenna is top-mounted and KNDO-DT's antenna is mounted on the side of the tower, with a center of radiation 18.5 meters above ground level. At this antenna height, the KNDO-DT signal experiences terrain blockages because the tower is on an uneven ridge line. The digital antenna cannot be raised significantly higher because of the presence of the analog antenna. The KNDO tower is within an antenna farm and is already the highest tower on the farm. The tower is 2.62 miles from a runway at the Yakima Air Terminal, the principal commercial airport serving the area, and its height is therefore restricted. Furthermore, we cannot increase the power delivered to the side-mounted antenna because this would result in unacceptable RF emissions to uncontrolled areas accessible to the public.

KNDO-DT's facilities could satisfy the requirements of Paragraph 78 of the Second DTV Periodic Review Report and Order<sup>2</sup> if the antenna could be placed at least 38 meters above ground level. This would require either switching the analog and digital antennas or replacing the analog antenna with a shorter one. We have investigated the use of a shorter analog antenna such as the Dielectric TFU-18GTH-R O4, but such an antenna would result in a reduction of the ERP of KNDO-TV. This reduction in power would result in the impairment or loss of the analog TV signal to approximately 2.8% of the KNDO-TV service area, including the communities of Prosser and Grandview, Washington with a combined population of approximately 5,600. This loss would be especially unfortunate because the affected area has one of the lowest average household incomes in the state of Washington and viewers there would be forced to convert to digital reception equipment, while prices are still relatively high, or to replace their free over-the-air broadcast service with direct broadcast satellite or cable.

Following the completion of our transition to digital broadcasting, we will eliminate this problem by moving the KNDO-DT antenna to the top of the tower.

The Commission's Public Notice of June 14, 2006<sup>3</sup> listed factors to be considered with regard to waivers of the interference protection deadline. We have addressed those factors in this request: (1) *how close to full replication/maximization the licensee will be as of the deadline*: KNDO-DT will reach 90.5% of KNDO-TV's audience; (2) *the reason the licensee is unable to comply fully*: restrictions on the height at which we can mount the KNDO-DT

---

<sup>2</sup> Second Periodic Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion to Digital Television, 19 FCC Rcd 18279 (2004), ¶ 78 ("Paragraph 78").

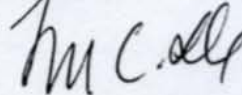
<sup>3</sup> DA 06-1255.

Marlene H. Dortch  
July 6, 2006  
Page 3

antenna on our tower; (3) *the impact to viewers if the licensee were to comply fully:* 2.8% of our analog viewers would be adversely affected, including some of those most economically challenged; and (4) *whether the licensee will be able to modify its operation to comply fully after analog operation terminates:* when the digital antenna can be top-mounted, KNDO-DT's facilities will comply with Paragraph 78.

Accordingly, KHQ has met the showing expected by the Commission and we respectfully request a waiver of the July 1 replication/maximization interference protection deadline until the termination of KNDO-TV's analog broadcasting operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lon C. Lee".

Lon C. Lee  
President  
KHQ, Incorporated

cc: Mr. Shaun Maher, FCC